

SECRET**REF/TSC/RED-238-70**
29 September 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Research & Engineering Division, TSC

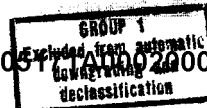
SUBJECT : RED Responsibilities Related to Small Image Mensuration Problems

REFERENCE : Request for RFIC Support Dated 16 September 1970, Titled: "Small Image Mensuration Study"

1. The reference indicates that IEG/PHD will be performing an "in depth look at the problems associated with the mensuration of small objects". As long as this effort on their part is operationally oriented, it is certainly appropriate; however, I find it strange that PHD personnel would be involved in such a study without requesting RED support, since it is apparent that much of the information they are seeking regarding this problem area can only be obtained through a process which is typically called research. In this case the supporting research required is even of a fundamental nature; that is, it deals with the nature of optical image formation and the nature of the photographic system response in the process of recording the optical image.

2. I find it difficult to understand that it is appropriate, efficient, or even expedient for the organization charged with the mensuration production responsibility (IEG/PHD) for the Center to saddle their own man power with the responsibility of gathering and analyzing the information necessary to define the fundamental technological aspects of this problem. On the contrary, it seems to me that this effort will necessarily dilute the man power available to assigned production tasks and their production responsibilities will dilute their capability for giving the proper time for investigation and thought to this research effort.

3. On the other hand, the requirement for work of this nature is the basis for the existence of the Research & Engineering Division. Our staffing has been selected because of their interest and knowledge in the subject areas required for pursuit of the solution to problems of this type. Our responsibility and, consequently, our time is solely dedicated to this kind of work. By allowing this type of effort to go on elsewhere in the Center uncontested, it seems to me that we are not living up to our assigned responsibility and are even becoming a party to a situation that will compromise the effectiveness of both the R&D and production efforts of the Center.

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4. I do not believe in this case that there is any need for such a situation to persist. I think that PHD would welcome R&D assistance from our division if it is properly conceived and communicated, and in particular I believe that RED can be of significant assistance in analyzing the problems associated with the mensuration of small images. With your approval I will be glad to set up the communications with IEC/PHD (through Birenzo) which I believe would successfully establish the responsibility for the research support of this effort to the Research & Engineering Division.


Special Assistant for Plans & Applications, RED

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